

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 192692

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

INFO SECDEF

CNO

OCEANAV ALEXANDRIA VA

NAVOCEANO SUITLAND MD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192692

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR, MX, US

SUBJECT: AIRBORNE MAGNETIC SURVEY OVER MEXICAN TERRITORY

1. A VECTOR MAGNETIC AIRBORNE SURVEY OF THE CONTINENTAL U.S. WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE U.S. NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE (NAVOCEANO) FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 1976. THE SURVEY WILL BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE WORLD CHARTING PROGRAM FOR PROJECT MAGNET DURING FY 77. THE MAGNETIC DATA COLLECTED WILL BE USED IN MEETING U.S. AND WORLD MAGNETIC CHARTING REQUIREMENTS. IN ADDITION, TOTAL MAGNETIC INTENSITY DATA CAN BE USED TO PRODUCE A NATIONAL MAGNETIC ANOMALY CHART (NMAC) WHICH IS PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. THE NMAC WOULD EVENTUALLY COVER ALL OF THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT.

2. EXTENSION OF SURVEY LINES INTO MEXICO WOULD PROVIDE THE NECESSARY CONTINUATION OF DATA WHICH WOULD ALLOW U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 192692

CHART CORRELATION WITH MEXICAN CHARTS AND WOULD ALSO PRO-

VIDE DATA FOR VECTOR COMPONENT FILTERING TECHNIQUES WHICH REQUIRE DATA BEYOND CHART BOUNDARIES. A LARGE CHART BEARING VECTORS OF PROPOSED OVERFLIGHTS OF MEXICAN AIRSPACE, A SMALLER CHART BEARING THE SAME VECTORS AND THE PROPOSED FLIGHT ROUTING PLAN ARE BEING POUCHED SEPARATELY.

3. THE SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE PROJECT MAGNET AIRCRAFT RP-3D ORION SPECIALLY INSTRUMENTED FOR THIS PURPOSE. FLIGHT ALTITUDE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 2000 FT AGL WITH A MAXIMUM FLIGHT ENVELOPE OF 1000 TO 3000 FT AGL. FLIGHTS WITHIN MEXICAN AIRSPACE ARE SCHEDULED FOR 28-30 SEP 76. SINCE VFR WEATHER IS NECESSARY FOR FLIGHT OPERATIONS AT 2000 FT AGL, FLIGHT CANCELLATIONS MAY BE NECESSARY. FLIGHTS THAT ARE CANCELLED WILL BE RESCHEDULED FOR THE FOLLOWING DAY. FLIGHTS WILL BE COMPLETED NLT 2 OCT 76.

4. COPIES OF REDUCED DATA COLLECTED OVER MEXICO CAN BE PROVIDED TO GOM IF DESIRED. A LIMITED NUMBER (NO MORE THAN 4 OR 5) MEXICAN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL ARE WELCOME TO TRAVEL AS OBSERVERS ON SURVEY FLIGHTS. IT IS NOTED THAT ALL FLIGHTS WILL BE ROUND-ROBIN AND MEXICAN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WOULD HAVE TO ARRANGE FOR TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE DEPARTURE/RETURN LOCATION. MEXICAN TECHNICAL OFFICIALS ARE INVITED TO CORRESPOND DIRECTLY WITH COMMANDER NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20373.

5. REQUEST GOM BE APPROACHED WITH THIS PROPOSAL AND THAT DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR THE TIMES INDICATED BE REQUESTED. KISSINGER

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